

Bill 61, CD1  
Additional Testimony



November 14, 2018

RE: SUPPORT BILL 61 (2018) CD1 RELATING TO CROSSWALKS

Dear Chair Martin, Vice-Chair Pine, and Distinguished Members of the Council,

Thank you for this opportunity to testify. Blue Zones Project was brought to Hawaii by HMSA to help increase the overall well-being of our communities and to make Hawaii a healthier, happier place to live, work and play. To accomplish that goal, we address ways that we can lower obesity rates, tobacco use, and chronic diseases.

One of the many ways to positively affect well-being is to increase the opportunities for people to move naturally. To ensure natural movement, safety for all road users is the most important element.

Bill 61 PROPOSED CD1 allows for the removal of crosswalks. Although we have concerns regarding the removal of crosswalks in general, this version addresses more elements to help ensure that these removals can be used to enhance the city's implementation of its Complete Streets Guide.

The required process for public notification during the crosswalk removal planning process as well as time lines for the process are addressed in this measure. Blue Zones Project strongly supports these elements of public engagement. Both drivers and pedestrians are affected by removal of crosswalks. The public process is vital if we are striving to reach zero road deaths.

Blue Zones Project—Hawaii supports policies that help to implement safe practices for all road users. Mahalo for this opportunity to testify in support of Bill 61(2018) CD1.

Sincerely,

*Peggy Mierzwa*

Peggy Mierzwa  
Statewide Policy Lead—Hawaii  
Blue Zones Project

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